PACIFIC FRUIT EXPRESS COMPANY

February News Letter

San Francisco, February 24, 1958

ALL P.F.E. EMPLOYES:

P.F.E. Loadings

	1958			1957		
	PFE Cars	Foreigns	Total	PFE Cars	Foreigns	Total
January	30,693	2,133	32,826	27,941	1,092	29,033

Car Situation

Car supply has been on the low side for several weeks due to heavy loading which has been stimulated by freezing damage to Florida crops. Now, as result of paralyzing snow storms and below zero temperatures throughout Eastern and Midwestern States, stalling the westward movement of reefers, supplies have shrunk further to the point that spot shortages are occurring in Idaho, West Coast of Mexico, and some areas of California. With no abatement in snow conditions up to February 20th, continued car stringencies will obtain through remainder of February and possibly into early March. Help has been solicited from all foreign car owners with good response for all but one carline, which is also borrowing foreign cars.

Crop Conditions

Along Southern Pacific -

Oregon. Storage pears from Medford continue to move in seasonal volume. Frozen foods and canned goods are principal commodities moving from Willamette with canned goods slightly below normal due to use of D-F box cars. Trucks continue to handle the bulk of Klamath Basin potatoes.

Northern California. Porterville Navel crop has passed peak production and shipments are declining gradually. Valencia crop is about 20% lighter than last year and will be ready for picking late in March. Delta asparagus movement has started and several shipments have moved by freight or about two weeks earlier than last year.

In Western District winter vegetables are moving in light but steady volume. Canned goods is in heavy volume from East Bay stations and will continue so through March 3rd -- tax day. Frozen foods from Santa Clara, Watsonville, and Salinas Valley also will be heavy through the remainder of the month.

Southwest District. Lettuce shipping from Imperial Valley is past peak production and will decline rapidly during last week of February. Yuma lettuce

is picking up steadily and recent rains and warm weather have advanced maturity. Shipping will be in heavy volume by end of the month. Mexican vegetables are crossing at Nogales in steady volume and should continue if current favorable markets prevail. Celery movement off SD&AE is nearing end of the season. Territory west of Colton to Guadalupe is producing a good vegetable movement. Citrus loading is increasing gradually but crops are considerably smaller than those of last year.

T&NO. Consistently poor weather has retarded maturity and interrupted harvests and shipping has been far below earlier expectations. With more favorable weather shipping will go into heavy volume.

Along Union Pacific -

Utah-Idaho District. Prevailing strong markets have made for consistently heavy potato movement through the month and with current demands exceeding supplies good movement should continue through remainder of the month. Onion movement also is in steady volume with good markets prevailing. Canned goods and other miscellaneous commodities are moving from Salt Lake and Moapa Districts in normal seasonal volume.

Northwest District. Movement of deciduous fruits from storages in Yakima and Hood River Districts is above normal due to exceptionally large crops of apples and pears. Movement of canned goods and beer shipments is slightly below normal due to greater use of D-F box cars. Other miscellaneous commodities, including frozen foods, are in normal seasonal volume.

Eastern District. Only occasional shipments of Nebraska potatoes are moving by rail with trucks handling bulk of movement. There has been a slight increase in shipments of packing house products and there is a nominal movement of storage fruit from Coldspur.

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Mr. John R. Dunlap, Superintendent Car Department at Tucson will retire March 1st because of ill health. He was born October 7, 1898, and entered service September 18, 1916, in Los Angeles Car Department as a canvaser. Subsequently he worked up through the ranks at Yuma, Tucson, and Los Angeles, and was appointed Superintendent Car Department at Tucson in December, 1947.

We sincerely regret the circumstances forcing Johnny's retirement and hope that rest and relaxation will restore his health. John's address is 3213 East 2nd Street, Tucson, Arizona.

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Mr. Ralph A. Gould, Supervisor, Refrigeration and Heater Record Bureau in Chicago retired August 31, 1957. He was born July 5, 1892, and entered service May 22, 1914, as Clerk at Chicago, advancing through various

positions including Head Clerk Refrigeration Bureau, Chief Clerk and Office Manager. He was appointed Supervisor Refrigeration & Heater Record Bureau on June 1, 1944. His address is 1630 N. Nashville Avenue, Chicago 35, Illinois.

We regret failure to report Ralph's retirement sooner, but wish for him many years of health and happiness.

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As I expect to retire from active service the end of this month, I want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for the friendly and loyal support you have given me throughout the many years we have together served our fine Company. Through good times and bad we have pulled together and as a team we have solved in a satisfactory manner the problems that have beset us from time to time. The reputation of our Company throughout the entire country is good. Industry members are high in their praise of the services rendered and our railroad friends generously commend us for the cooperative manner in which we handle our business. Truly we have a great organization and you as individuals and as members of our team have made it so.

I know that you will continue to give the same loyal support to my successor Mr. Chas. Ahern, and that under his able guidance the P.F.E. will continue to be the greatest organization in the country.

Again my thanks to all of you.

K. V. PLUMMER

Vice President & General Manager